

[In re Appl. No. 09/380,638]

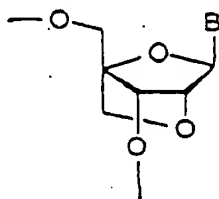
A¹
Conced
and each represents a hydrogen atom, and alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aralkyl group, an aryl group, an acyl group, or a silyl group, or an amidite derivative thereof.

Page 4, please replace original paragraph 1 with new paragraph 1 as follows:

A²
The alkynyl group represents a straight chain or branched chain alkynyl group with 2 to 20 carbon atoms. Its examples include ethynyl, propynyl, and butynyl.

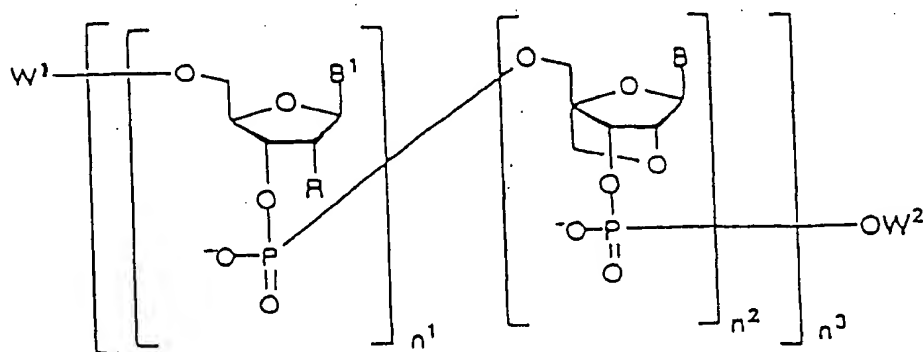
Page 5, please replace paragraph 4 with new paragraph 4 as follows:

The nucleotide analogue of the present invention is an oligonucleotide or polynucleotide analogue having one or more structures of the general formula (Ia)



where B is a pyrimidine or purine nucleic acid base, or an analogue thereof,

or an oligonucleotide or polynucleotide analogue of the general formula (II)



(II)

where B¹ and B are identical or different, and each represents a pyrimidine or purine nucleic acid base, or an analogue thereof, R is a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a halogen atom, or an alkoxy group,

W¹ and W² are identical or different, and each represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aralkyl group, an aryl group, an acyl group, a silyl group, a phosphoric acid residue, a naturally occurring nucleoside or a synthetic nucleoside bound via a phosphodiester bond, or an oligonucleotide or polynucleotide containing the nucleoside, n¹'s or n²'s are identical or different, and each denote an integer of 0 to 50, provided that n¹'s or n²'s are not zero at the same time, and that not all of n²'s are zero at the same time, n³ denotes an